

David Charles'

Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

ISSUE #12 – June 15, 2023

AUGUST 30, 1942

SOX BLAST FOUR BROWNS' HURLERS TO WIN NIGHTCAP

**38,000 Fans See Niggeling Jinx Hose in First,
4 to 1**

By Gerry Moore, The Boston Globe

You can't blame the Red Sox and 38,599 fans, who comprosed the season's second largest cash crowd at Fenway Park yesterday, if they demand a permanent pension for John (Grandpa) Niggeling.

This uncanny 37-year-old knuckle-ball pitcher, once the property of the Braves and Reds but now of the Browns, just about blitzed the eleventh-hour pennant hopes of the Red Sox when he beat the Croninmen for the fifth time this year by a 4-1 count in the opener of a vital double-header.

Easy One for Butland

Although a shuffled-up Boston batting order bombarded four St. Louis slingers for a 12-6 victory in the closer that interrupted a six-game winning streak for Luke Sewell's third placers and made long Bill Butland's fifth straight chucking conquest an easy one, the latest Niggling knuckles dropped the Hose to eight games back of the Yankees who simultaneously were whipping the Tigers twice.

Not only did Niggeling, who now has knocked off the locals 11 times in 15 tries during the three seasons he's been with the Browns, let down the Hose with eight carefully spaced hits, but he started both St. Louis scoring surges himself with singles.

The Sox tried just about every maneuver in the book in an attempt to run Grandpa into exhaustion, but none worked after the first iining when John yielded the lone Sox run out of a single by Dom, Pesky's sacrifice while DiMag was running, and Ted's lone single to center, also hit while the Little professor was in motion.

At the game's end, Niggeling looked just as undismayed as when he delivered his first wobbling butterfly serve in the contest.

Did Something on Bases, Too

The frail-looking right-hander had to do some running on the bases too. He opened the third against Lefty Ken Chase with

a safe bloop to left center. After Gutteridge flied out, Clift walked. With two away, Walt Judnich, hottest of the Browns at the moment, pulled a three-bagger past first and down the right field line.

Because Chase walked a couple of more men in the fifth, Lefty Oscar Judd was operating when Niggeling singled into right with one away in the seventh. Finney almost threw Niggeling out at first on this one. Don Gutteridge sent John ambling to third with a sliced safety into right. Clift pushed a high bounder over second. Pesky, grabbing the ball, tried to make a double play by stepping on the bag and firing to first.

Johnny was too late to force Gutteridge at second, but threw out Clift at first while Niggeling scored.

Ensuing walks to Laabs and Judnich, the former intentional, set the stage for Stephens' single to rescue the final St. Louis tally, although a patented DiMag peg cut down another on the same play as Laabs tried to register from second.

Running Tactics Go Wrong

What Sox chances that weren't ruined by Niggeling were wrecked by once carrying their running tactics too far; by wind-figuring bad luck and the wrong end of the one close ump's decision.

In the fifth, Bill Conroy's double, Judd's sacrifice and Dom's ducat came with one out, but the Little Professor was caught stealing before Pesky rolled out.

In the sixth, two Williams liners carried foul into the rightfield stands before Ted grounded out to Clift, playing shortstop's normal position in the Brown's screwy defense for Ted.

With two away in the same session, Tony Lupien's towering triple just failed to carry into the rightfield stands, and Lou Finney couldn't rescue Lupe.

A walk to Tabe and Dom's single put men on first and third with two out in the seventh. the crowd boohed Ump Art Passarella for calling Pesky out on a deflected grounder, McQuinn to Gutteridge to Niggeling, the last-named covering first.

With Williams on second after a single and wild pitch in the eighth, another Lupien extra-base bid turned foul by inches down the right field line.

There wasn't much in the second game, in which the Red Sox made 18 blows all told, after the third inning, wherein they rolled up six runs against Denny Galehouse and George Caster.

The hose already had scored once in the second on their old pal Denny, who had beaten the Croninmen three times in as many tries before yesterday.

The big third included singles by Pesky and Ted, Galehouse's late throw to third on Lupe's bunt. Finney's single and a walk to Doerr before Denny departed.

Tabe greeted Caster with a double and Peacock followed

with the second of his four straight safeties. This 7-0 advantage made it a breeze for Butland. Bill allowed only six hits and the Sox even made four errors without hurting themselves.

SOX SHORTS

Capt. Harvey of Station 16 estimated that more than 5000 fans were turned away, but the congestion wasn't quite so bad as for the Yankee doubleheader Aug. 19, when the paid attendance was 37,561, but 1253 servicemen swelled the grand total to 38,814. . . . Only larger paying patronage this season was 38,010 for the single tilt with Yankees April 26. . . . Browns drew 34,519 for the Sunday twin bill which they knocked the Sox off twice on July 12. . . . Sox have beaten Niggeling only once this year. . . . His full record is 13-10, showing he does much better against the Hose than any other clubs. . . . Williams stole second in the first inning of the opener for his third larceny of the year, but although Lupe walked in this round, Sox couldn't do any more damage since Doerr and Finney hoisted out. . . . Sox last night announced recall of pitchers Andy Karl from Louisville and Norman Brown from San Diego. . . . Karl, who has won six and lost 11, will report when the American Association season is through, but Brown, with a 9-10 record, does not rejoin the varsity until next Spring. . . . Tex Hughson and Bob Muncief pitch the single final game of the series this afternoon with Manager Luke Sewell of the St. Luisans due to be honored by the Shriners at 2:30.

AUGUST 9, 1970

RED SOX KO LOLICH, OUTSLUG TIGERS, 7-4

By Clif Keane, The Boston Globe

The hangover from the ninth inning disaster of the previous evening had faded, when all of a sudden the prospect of another Detroit explosion loomed yesterday at Fenway Park.

Gary Wagner managed to bring things to a much brighter conclusion, and the Red Sox defeated the Tigers, 7-4.

The righthander gave an excellent relief performance. He came in with two on and nobody out in the ninth and walked Ray Price to load the bases.

Then Wagner got tough. He struck out Dick McAuliffe on a fly to right and fanned Mickey Stanley to end the game.

The 27,188 in the place had spent a merry afternoon talking about the seven straight hits the Red Sox exploded in the first inning, with back-to-back homers by Rico Petrocelli and Billy Conigliaro in the middle for a run, with Mickey Lolich.

Five runs clattered across the plate while chubby Mickey, the hero of the 1968 World Series with three wins against the St. Louis Cardinals, looked forlorn.

Lolich's manager, Mayo Smith, felt that much of Lolich's chagrin was caused by his inability to make a play at first base on a tap by Carl Yastrzemski which would have ended the inning without a trace of damage.

But trouble at first base plagued the Tigers all day. When Lolich left, another pitcher, rookie righthander Lerrin LaGrow, failed to tag first on a play and the Red Sox collected two runs off the kid in the fourth.

"I never saw so much trouble around first base in my life,"

said Smith later. But the Red Sox fans loved it, and hardly recognized the fact that a lot of luck went into the Boston assault.

With a seven-run lead, Ray Culp was breezing along to his 12th win. Only one man reached second base off Culp in the first seven innings, while the righthander was giving up two singles.

Culp, good as he is, has a weakness fielding his position. After Ray delivers the ball he falls off the mound to his left - a common fault among pitchers - and Ray did it twice in the eighth to give up base hits.

The Tigers got two runs off Ray as a result of the taps through the middle, and when Ray got into trouble in the ninth he had to leave.

Ray had given up walks to Norm Cash and Dalton Jones to start the ninth and Don Wert singled up the middle for a run with Jones moving to third base. Kasko came out and Wagner was brought on to pitch to Price, who walked to load the bases.

This brought Kaline from the bench. Al gets rested after night games now, and this was the time for Kaline and his hard swing. A homer and the game would be tied.

But Wagner threw fast balls right past Kaline - all fast balls. "I have pitched only once to the man and I got away with fast balls that time. So I tried again today. Nothing but speed," Wagner said.

"That's right," said Kaline. "I swung at fast balls, and I was looking for the homer, of course. I did tuck one."

With that threat gone, Wagner had to pitch to McAuliffe, the crusher in the opening game with a homer off Chuck Hartenstein. McAuliffe had better luck than Kaline. He met the ball and sent it about 15 feet from the bleacher wall for a sacrifice fly.

One guy left - Stanley. And he was called out on strikes. Mickey thought Wagner's slider was outside - the umpire didn't.

In that explosive first inning, Mike Andrews popped out and Reggie Smith fanned before Yastrzemski hit a chopper about 15 feet to the left of First base. Lolich started after it, couldn't make connections and kept right on running past first.

Cash did get the ball, but he couldn't get to Carl in time. Tony lifted a pop fly to short right. It should have been caught, probably by Dalton Jones, but it dropped for a single. Then the homers by Rico and Billy. John Kennedy doubled and Jerry Moses singled for a run.

Culp singled and that ended Lolich and LaGrow came in to get Andrews on a ground ball.

LaGrow had his troubles in the fourth. He's 6-5 with big feet. But he couldn't touch first base. Andrews singled and Reggie hit to Cash, who fed the ball to LaGrow. The pitcher dragged his foot everywhere but over the bag and Smith had a hit.

Yastrzemski grounded to second after Andrews and Smith had moved up on a wild pitch - and Jones threw out Mike at the plate. Tony singled, scoring Smith, and when Billy Conigliaro singled, Carl rallied.

Culp had his trouble in the eighth after he walked Price with one out. Nagelson singled through the middle and so did McAuliffe, with Ray out of position. A third single in the inning by Jim Northrup for a run brought Kasko out to the mound. But big gates Brown popped out to end the inning.

AUGUST 20, 1925

BRAVES MAKE SLAM AGAINST THE CARDS

**Win Fourth Straight Game 6 to 3 By Timely
Hitting and Great Work on Slab by Barnes**

By James C. O'Leary, The Boston Globe

Four straight, and a clean-up of the series, is what the Braves made it when they defeated the Cardinals yesterday, 6 to 3.

Good pitching by Jesse Barnes, which was well supported, and hard and timely hitting formed a combination that proved too much for the visitors.

For seven innings Barnes had them completely at his mercy, while the Braves were getting in some solid licks against Duster Malls, Gautreau, Burrus, Welsh and High hitting him for extra bases, always, except in the case of Welsh, with runners in scoring position. High hit a home run, with one on.

In addition to his other troubles Malls had poor control. He passed three men and hit two others, one of those hit being Jimmy Welsh. As the latter was going to first Malls made some remarks which caused Welsh to stop suddenly and walk into the diamond toward Malls, who met him half way. When they got close up, there was a verbal exchange or two, and Malls raised his hand as if to give Welsh a shove, Jimmy very deftly, with a suggestion of jiu jitsu in the move, caught Duster by the shirtsleeve up near the shoulder, and gave him a half turn so quickly that Malls apparently did not know "where he was at."

Trouble Quickly Ended

There was no attempt made to exchange blows, and umpires and players rushed between the two before this could have been done.

Welsh must have had gross provocation to do even as much as he did, for he is not quarrelsome, but, on the contrary, is one of the most kindly disposed players in the game today. The incident was quickly closed, and the game went on as if nothing had happened.

This game, like the other three clashes in the series, was a good one to watch. Bancroft, Burrus and Gautreau starred in the field for the Braves, and Bottomley, Hafey and Thevenow played best for the Cardinals. Heinie Mueller made the circus catch in short center field after a long run.

The Braves had the bases full in the first inning with only one out, but neither Felix nor High could put a man over.

The Braves were the first to score. In the third Thevenow fumbled Bancroft's grounder. Banny was forced at second by Mann, but the latter scored from first on a double to center by Burrus.

In the next inning, after two were out, Barnes singled, Gautreau whipped a sizzler past Bell and the ball skinned along the ground to the left field corner of the lot, where Blades finally caught up with it just as Gautreau was approaching third, but the little fellow never stopped at the third station, but after rounding the bag grabbed off his cap, which was riding insecurely on the top of his head, and set sail for the plate.

The ball which had been thrown by Blades to Thevenow for

a relay, beat Gautreau in by a couple of yards, and while the bound to O'Farrell looked to be perfect, the Cardinal catcher never laid a hand on the ball, so, of course. Gautreau scored easily, Barnes having crossed the rubber a few seconds earlier.

A double by Welsh and a single by O'Neil were good for another run in the sixth, and a single by Burrus, and High's homer were good for two more in the seventh. Hafey tried to make a shoestring catch of High's line drive, and missed the ball altogether.

Cards Flash in Eighth

Up to this stage the visitors had been held to four hits by Barnes and had never threatened to score.

In the eighth, though, Blades led off with a single. Thevenow flied to Mann, and Hornsby, who had not made a hit during the day and only one in the series, was retired at first on a great play by Bancroft, Blades taking second, whence he scored on a single by Bottomley. Hafey then hit a ball to center which Felix misjudged slightly so that it carried over his head for a home run. None of the visitors reached first after this.

CLEANING 'EM UP

The Cardinals were treated rough.

Four times in the same place. What the Braves have been doing to those first division clubs, the Reds excepted, all season has been aplenty.

Boston is on the top step of the cellar, and it is up to Banny and his athletes to move out, and make room for a new tenant.

Gautreau had only two chances in the field yesterday, but he was very much in evidence at bat. Mueller robbed him of a hit by a great catch in the eighth, Heinie put a "circus" frill on the play after he had the ball securely in his hands.

O'Neil didn't extend himself much on Barnes' attempted sacrifice and failed to run out his hit to Thevenow in the seventh, hardly the proper thing to do, even if the Braves had what looked like a commanding lead.

Cooney or Benton will probably go against the Cincinnati Reds in the opening game of the series today.

APRIL 30, 1949

SAIN SCORES FIRST VICTORY AS BRAVES BEAT GIANTS, 4-0

**12,413 See Tribe Ace Pitch 4-Hitter, Walk
Only One to Top Jansen in Duel**

By Clif Keane, The Boston Globe

The fretting over when Johnny Sain would reach the victory column ended yesterday when the big right hander blanked the Giants, 4-0, with four hits before 12,413 at Braves Field.

Maybe Sain is setting a winning pattern from his '48 mark work. A year ago to the day, Johnny won his first game, defeating the Giants who suffered their first shutout of the year

after spraying a parade of pitchers since the season started.

Only one man reached second base against Sain, and then only because of an error by Earl Torgeson in the first inning. The tobacco-chewing stylist also walked only one man. Augie Galan received the ticket in the eighth in a pinch-hitting role. But the next pinch swinger, Ray Mueller, held the bat on his shoulder while taking three strikes.

Sain was opposed by Larry Jansen, right hander, and leading pitcher on the Giant staff. Nine days ago they were matched against each other in New York, and both were knocked out of the box with the game ending in a 6-6 tie.

Gordon's Error Hurts

Jansen ran into first inning trouble when the Braves reached him for three of their runs. An error by the slugging Sid Gordon on Alvin Dark's roller started his misery, but even though he settled down after that, Jansen simply couldn't match the perfection of Sain's great hurling.

The Braves got their final run in the sixth. Tommy Holmes, after struggling through a stretch of 21 hitless times at bat, drove in Jim Russell after the center fielder had doubled down the right field line.

There might have been more damage dealt Jansen but for the tremendous speed of the Giant outfielders who made half the team's putouts. Twice Bobby Thompson made one-handed stabs, while Whitey Lockman robbed Sain in the seventh with a shoestring grab.

Eddie Stankey opened the Braves' first by walking. Dark topped a roller down to Gordon, but Sid first bobbed the ball then couldn't get it out of the webbing in his glove, Earl Torgeson smashed a line single to center scoring Stanky.

Both Dark and Torgeson moved ahead another station on Jim Russell's infield bounnder to Johnny Mize at first base. The strategy called for Pete Reiser to walk intentionally, but Holmes' fly to center was sufficiently long to score the speedy Dark.

Marv Rickert promptly atoned for his disastrous boner of the previous night by singling off Lucky Lohrke's glove. The Giant second baseman lunged at the ball, but it rolled into right field, Torgeson scoring the third run of the inning. Bill Salkeld lined to Lockman.

Torgeson's error on Lockman came on a bounding ball to his right after Lohrke had grounded out. Earl got his glove on the ball, but it rolled away from him. Gordon made the first of his two singles, but Lockman reposed on second base while Mize and Thomson were easy outs.

After that, Sain was masterful. Gordon singled in the fourth, but after Mize had flied out, Thomson rolled into a double play.

Lockman singled with two out in the sixth, and Gordon fouled to Torgeson. Marshall singled with two gone in the seventh and Cooper matched Gordon's previous pop up to Torgeson.

The Giant bench made a little noise when Galan pinch hit for Buddy Kerr only to stump back into quietness again as Mueller overburdened himself by carrying a bat to the plate for Jansen.

Torgeson doubled in the eighth with one out off Hank Behrman, but the ex-Brooklyn right-hander retired both Russell and Reiser, although they slammed vicious line drives to Thomson and Gordon, respectively.

NOVEMBER 27, 1985

CELTICS DODGE DETROIT

Bird's Quiet 47 Help the Cause

By Bob Ryan, The Boston Globe

What's more terrifying to a rival NBA player than Vinnie Johnson in one of those patented unconscious sprees? Well, perhaps opening up the envelope and finding the club had shorted you by 10 bucks on your meal money. But that's about all.

"I'll tell you one thing," said Danny Ainge, "If that guy in Chicago is called 'The Refrigerator,' then you've gotta call Vinnie 'The Microwave.' He really heated up in a hurry."

Ainge could joke about it because despite another one of Johnson's surrealistic spurts in the fourth quarter, the Celtics had managed to escape with a 132-124 victory over the Detroit Pistons last night at the Garden.

But there were no funny one-liners, no chuckles or guffaws back in the fourth period when Johnson hit five straight shots despite being worn first by Ainge, then by Dennis Johnson. When The Microwave was through cooking, an Isiah Thomas-less Pistons team was in possession of a 122-120 lead with 2:50 remaining.

They were still in excellent shape a minute later, ahead by a deuce (124-122), and preparing to go up more following a Celtics turnover. Then came the biggest defensive play of the game. When Rick Mahorn came up high to pick off DJ, Robert Parish stepped into the passing lane and swallowed a looping pick-and-roll pass from Vinnie The Microwave to Ricky The Enforcer. That led to a fast break and a missed DJ jumper, but Larry Bird (47 points) snatched the rebound and deposited a turnaround to tie the game.

Parish had the honor of giving the Celtics a permanent lead at the 1:20 mark when he rebounded a John Lang miss and drew a foul from Mahorn, who once again proved that he has degenerated into the Tiger Williams of the NBA by instigating a jam at this critical point in the game. An unruffled Parish sank his two foul shots - the second after a Detroit timeout.

Detroit was still alive, of course, but its hopes quickly evaporated when Bill Laimbeer bricked up a jumper, Bird rebounded and DJ hit Kevin McHale for a sweet rolling hook with 49 seconds to go. Subsequent free throws by DJ padded the score.

Detroit was forced to play the final 2 1/2 periods without Thomas, who sustained a hyperextension of the right knee during a fastbreak collision with Jerry Sichting in the second quarter. While his loss was obviously a serious problem for the visitors, the upshot was that the ball wound up in the hands of Vinnie more often. He responded with 35 points and 8 assists.

Points came cheaply in this game. The Celtics held leads of 71-70 at the half and 100-96 after three quarters, but there was really no sense of excitement or wonder attached to the exercise. About all you need know about the inherent cheapness of the first three periods was that Bird had 35 points in the first 30 minutes, and it looked as if he had about 18 because so many of them were on free throws. He would wind up with a season high, but don't think for a millisecond it wasn't a struggle.

As proof of this game's shoddiness, consider the end of the

second quarter, Vinnie The Microwave and Long were throwing in a variety of open jumpers, but what were the Pistons doing at the other end? Fouling, of course. Detroit simply cannot handle the Boston frontcourt, so while their guards were playing H-O-R-S-E from 20 feet, the Celtics were scoring one basket in a stretch of over five minutes and keeping pace at the foul line, where they made 10 straight. This is quality basketball?

But all that was forgotten in the last period, when the Celtics finally realized it was time to get serious on defense. The only problem was that when The Microwave fires up, human defense is irrelevant. Ain't no man alive can stop Vinnie Johnson one-on-run when he's on a roll.

And so with Boston ahead, 112-109, and 5:20 left, the real show began. Here was Vinnie from the foul line (semi-open), Vinnie with a leaner from the right, Vinnie with another leaner, Vinnie from 20 while winding up sliding into the high-priced seats in the front row and, finally, Vinnie with an outrageous in-your-pass leaner while being fouled by DJ. Awwww-some!

"He is so strong," marveled Ainge, "and he jumps in on his shot. He's just an incredible offensive player. We don't have anybody that can stop him one-on-one." No one would argue that.

Of course, the Pistons don't have anybody who can stop Bird (17 for 31), Parish (20) or McHale (20) one-on-one, either. And they don't play the same brand of smart team defense. And of course, they weren't at home. The Celtics clearly benefited from the backing of the 230th consecutive Garden sellout gathering.

Was it a great game? Naw. But any time one guy can score a sneaky 47 and another guy can earn himself a nickname, then it had to be worth the money.

OCTOBER 3, 1976

PATRIOTS 48, RAIDERS 17

...That Says It All

By Will McDonough, The Boston Globe

There are some who will demean it by using the word "upset."

What the Patriots did to the proud Oakland Raiders yesterday afternoon in Schaefer Stadium should not be described that way.

It was a total victory - as the 48-17 score in favor of New England's new heroes indicates.

"No one has ever done this to one of my teams," said Raider coach John Madden, after Oakland was pushed all over the field to the delight of a sellout crowd of 61,068 and a large television audience.

The victory was the third time on successive Sundays that the young Patriots have melted the iron of the NFL - stunning Miami and Pittsburgh before unleashing their offensive fury on the Raiders yesterday.

"We respected their offense, and I never say things like that," said Oakland's tough owner, Al Davis. "But we never expected anything like this to happen."

What happened was this. Obviously inspired by the roaring

crowd that created an electric atmosphere in the stadium, the Patriots simply knocked the Oakland defenders on their backs all day long.

In the end, they had assaulted the Oakland defense for seven touchdowns, 468 yards total offense - including 296 yards on the ground, the best ever by a Patriot team.

"Our offense controlled the game," said Patriot linebacker Steve Nelson, a vital member of the New England defensive unit, which bent, but did not break before Oakland's great passing attack.

On paper, the Patriot stars were quarterback Steve Grogan, fullback San Cunningham and wide receiver Darryl Stingley.

Grogan threw three touchdown passes and ran for two more. Cunningham rushed for 101 yards and caught passes for 94 more. Stingley had two nice TD catches and rushed for 48 yards on two reverses.

But all of them, including head coach Chuck Fairbanks knew that the victory really belonged to New England's offensive line. "Our offensive line was just fabulous all day," Fairbanks said. "We got all that yardage on the ground and didn't have our passer sacked once. You can't do much better than that."

Oakland, which showed up at Foxboro undefeated could never really get into the game.

Using a devastating ground game to tear the guts out of the Raiders 3-4 defense, the patriots lead, 7-0, at the end of one; 21-10 at the half; and 48-10 early in the fourth period, when both sides knew the game was over and threw the subs onto the field.

"We wanted to control the ball on the ground as much as we could," Grogan said. "We had respect for the way (Ken) Stabler can throw the ball and the way his receivers can catch it. But we never expected to keep putting points on the scoreboard as we did."

Stabler, considered by the Patriots the most accurate passer in the game, hit 20 of 35 passes for 225 yards before leaving early in the fourth quarter. Most of the completions were to tight end Dave Casper, who caught 12 for 136 yards.

"We didn't want to give up the bomb," Fairbanks said. "We wanted to make them settle for the shorter passes and not allow the big play."

The Patriots defense did this and also made Oakland turn the ball over four times to the offense, forcing three Raiders fumbles and grabbing an interception.

This was more help than the Patriots' offense needed. They knew they could run on Oakland and proved it - from the time Andy Johnson ran two yards for the first score in the opening minutes until Jess Phillips closed it out with an 11-yard scoring run in the fourth period.

The game became a romp when the Patriots scored four TDs on their first four possessions in the second half, opening the lead to 38 points.

"I can't explain all of this," said Grogan, who hit 10 of 14 passes for 165 yards. "All I know is that I'm really enjoying it."

Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

Published every 2 weeks by David C. Southwick. Published for informational, research and entertainment purposes only. Publisher may be reached at soxpapers@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 26, 1953

MARTY BARRY PACES bruins TO VICTORY

**St. Louis Visitors Outclassed by 5-0 Score -
Ayres and Bob Davie Fight**

By Victor O. Jones, The Boston Globe

Completely outclassing the St. Louis Blues, the Boston Bruins, last night dunked the boys from Missouri into the whitewash tub, 5 to 0, and aided by the Montreal Maroons, who beat the Rangers, 3 to 1, advanced from third place to a top tie with the New Yorkers in the closely bunched race down the home stretch of the American Division race.

A comparatively small crowd at the Garden saw Black Marty Barry, the strain of expectant fatherhood over, pace the Bruins to their most one-sided victory of the year. Barry's contributions consisted of two goals and assists on two others as the free wheeling first line of Max Kaminsky, Dit Clapper and Barry scored four of Boston's five goals.

Rugged Resistance

Though there never was any doubt about the outcome after Kaminsky had tallied the first goal in the second minute of play, St. Louis put up a rugged resistance and a third-period fist fight between Big Vernon Ayres and Bob Davie, which almost spread into a bona fide riot, further enlivened the soiree.

The fisticuffing eventually halfway through the third period. Ayres, pushed into the boards by Davie, retaliated by attempting to force his elbow down the throat of our exemplarily substitute defenseman. Bob takes that from no man, and swung. So did Ayres. The action was near the boards and four of five front line spectators declared themselves in on the fisticuffing.

Beveridge at Center Ice

Players from both sides, besides the two arbitors, rushed in to separate the combatants while down at the opposite end of the rink a dozen customers vaulted the fence onto the ice. Billy beveridge, St. Louis goalie, sensing trouble from this sector, moved to center ice and held off this movement long enough for a bluecoat back into their seats with an impressive and impressive, if inelegant "G'wan, get bthe heck outer here."

Ayers and davie drew five-minute penalties and the game progressed to its inevitable conclusion thereafter.

NOVEMBER 2, 1958

BRUINS DOWN TORONTO, 2-0

By Tom Fitzgerald, The Boston Globe

Don Simmons' first shutout of the season and Real

Chevrefils' first goal were significant items for the Bruins last night in a 2 to 0 conquest of Toronto's last-place maple Leafs that rewarded a sell-out crowd of 13,909 with consistently fast and frequently exciting hockey.

In keeping with this Boston club's habit of scoring in clusters, Chevrefils' effort late in the second period was followed up after an interval of only 39 seconds by Jerry Toppazzini, who is the league's leading goal getter with nine to seven for runner up Maurice Richard.

* * *

This victory which carried the B's through an unbeaten stretch five games, that includes only one tie, boosted them within a point of the first-place Canadiens who were idle last night.

The Bruins also have gone through five home games without a loss. They've racked up four straight following the season-opening tie against New York on Oct. 11.

Simmons, who has been a consistent star in practically every game this season was quick and sure of himself as he tied up in a good duel with Johnny Bower, the 33-year-old veteran who is taking another crack at a major league job after spending all but one of his previous 15 professional seasons in the minors. (He had a full season at New York in 1953-54).

Bower had 36 saves to Simmons' 30 and was at his best in the first period when he stopped 16 Boston attempts, many of them dangerous.

Simmons had some beauties, too. Samples were those he made in the last period against big George Armstrong, a wicked drive, and against Billy Harris, who fired from directly in front.

Chevrefils, making a determined comeback attempt after being demoted to Springfield last, was shaking his head before the game in reviewing his scoreless streak.

"I just don't know what a guy has to do to get one," he said.

He found the answer for himself at 17:47 at the tall end of a power play, only a second after Marc Reaume was released from the penalty box.

After passes in from Ferny Flam and Flem Mackell, Chevrefils was poised in front at the right. He made a good stickhandling move, then flipped the puck through Bower's feet.

The crowd was still yelling when Toppazzini finished off a play started by Bob Armstrong. Mackell had a shot, and after Bower saved, Topper collected the rebound, firing high into the strings.